

**W.L. GORE & ASSOCIATES, INC.**1500 NORTH FOURTH STREET • P.O. BOX 2400 • FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA 86003 • PHONE 928/526-3030  
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ADDRESSEE: Commissioner For Patents  
(703) 872-9306SENDER: David JohnsPHONE NUMBER: 928 / 864-4800  
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Operator: Melanee Williams Date:

\*\*\*\*\*  
COMMENTS:We enclose the attached papers for filing in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office in  
connection with Patent Application Serial No. 10/026,108.\*\*\*\*\*  
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JAN 21 2005

Attorney Docket No. MP/157

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Palacios et al.  
Appl. No. : 10/026,108  
Filed : 12/20/2001  
Title : Apparatus and Method For Applying  
Reinforcement Material To A  
Surgical Stapler  
Group Art Unit: 3731  
Examiner : Woo, Julian W

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark  
Office on January 21, 2005.

  
Melanee Williams

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in  
connection with the above-identified Patent Application.

Response under 37 CFR 1.111 (6 pages)

Respectfully submitted,

  
David J. Johns

Reg. No. 81,527  
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.  
551 Paper Mill Road, P.O. Box 9206  
Newark, DE 19714-9206  
(928) 864-4800

Date: 1/21/05

Attorney Docket No. MP/157

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Palacios et al.  
Appl. No. : 10/026,108  
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*Melanee Williams*  
Melanee Williams

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed September 21, 2004 for the above-referenced application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

**Applicants hereby request a one-month Extension of Time. The Examiner is requested and authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 07-1729 for the appropriate fee.**